

Philippians 2:9-11  
Women's Bible Study, April 24, 2024  
Kelli Fogde

Philippians 2:9-11

For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

For this reason also, God highly exalted Him. For what reason? The section of scripture that precedes this is the part about Jesus becoming a man and submitting to death on a Roman cross.

Philippians 2:7-8

... but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

The phrase "highly exalted" comes from the Greek word *huperupsoo* and it means to raise to the highest position. The Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Commentary says it means to be "super-eminently exalted". This word is only found here in the New Testament. We know that Jesus is God from all eternity so why and how was he exalted even higher than before he became a human?

Because of Christ's voluntary humiliation God lifted him above or beyond (*huper*) the state of glory which he enjoyed before the Incarnation. What glory did Christ have after the Ascension that he did not have before in heaven? What did he take back to heaven that he did not bring? Clearly his humanity. He returned to heaven the Son of Man as well as the Son of God. Robertson's NT Word Pictures

### Hebrews 2:9

But we do see Him who has been made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

Think for a minute of the celebration in Heaven when Jesus returned having defeated sin and the grave and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. What a picture! We will be celebrating throughout eternity in the same way.

### Revelation 5:9-10

And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."

### Revelation 5:11-13

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing." And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever."

Let's stop for a minute and think about Jesus. In our imperfect humanness describe the picture in Heaven. What do you look forward to when you get there?

Jesus also, when he was super-exalted, took on the role of mediator between God and man. There is no other who is qualified. He was perfectly God and became a man without ever losing His Deity.

### 1 Timothy 2:5

For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

### Hebrews 8:6

But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises.

Think for a minute about the implications of Jesus being our mediator. He could only take on this role if he submitted to the Father and completed His mission of death on that Roman cross. How wonderful and brilliant God is to have planned such a redemption for us. Praise Him!!

...and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name

Our Lord's exaltation began with His resurrection. When men buried the body of Jesus, that was the last thing any human hands did to Him. From that point on, it was God who worked. Men had done their worst to the Savior, but God exalted Him and honored Him. Men gave Him names of ridicule and slander, but the Father gave Him a glorious name! Just as in His humiliation He was given the name "Jesus", so in His exaltation He was given the name "Lord". He arose from the dead and then returned in victory to heaven, ascending to the Father's throne.

Warren Wiersbe, [Be Joyful](#)

### Ephesians 1:19b-22a

These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come. And He put all things in subjection under His feet....

Vs. 10-11

... so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is partially a direct quote from Isaiah.

Isaiah 45:23

I have sworn by Myself, the word has gone forth from My mouth in righteousness and will not turn back, that to Me every knee will bow, every tongue will swear allegiance.

This is a declaration of the deity of Jesus. God does not share His glory with another. He is the only one worthy of having every knee bow before Him and every tongue confess that He is Lord so giving Jesus the same worship declares that He is indeed God almighty!

Isaiah 42:8

I am the LORD, that is My name, I will not give My glory to another, nor My praise to graven images.

The day of every knee bowing before our Lord and every tongue confessing is both glorious and sobering. John Wesley says that all will bow before Christ "either with love or trembling." For those of us who have voluntarily bowed before Christ, that day will be a wonderful time of worship to our glorious King. For those who throughout life have lived in rebellion and rejected God's grace that will be a terrifying day. They will still be in rebellion but will have come to the realization that they have made a terrible mistake. This verse probably means the living and the dead will bow before Him and all the angels including the fallen ones.

1 Peter 3:22

...who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.

Romans 14:9

For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Mark 3:11

And whenever the unclean spirits beheld Him, they would fall down before Him and cry out, saying, "You are the Son of God!"

Revelation 5:13

And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever."

We need to remember that the exaltation of Jesus follows the humility that He was subjected to. Humility is always required before being raised up by God. It was necessary for the Philippians to hear about the humiliation of Jesus. Paul was writing to them to encourage them because of the persecution they were facing and because Paul's imprisonment was distressing to them. Paul was reminding them that even and especially Jesus suffered in this life. His suffering brought great glory to God. He defeated the powers of darkness and made a way for the ones chosen to have a relationship with God.

Being followers of Jesus, we also are expected to humble ourselves. We are people who have been saved from our sin, but we are far from perfect. We need a humble and contrite heart when we confess our sin and realize that we are no better than anyone else. Also, our lives are ordered by our loving God. We do not have to fight for our rights or even our livelihood. God will care for us in every

way. Loving and serving others is humbling ourselves because we are putting others' needs before our own. As we have talked about lately, loving others is commanded by God. It is not a natural act, especially toward our enemies. Just as Jesus was humbled here on earth by the enemies of God, we must choose to live humbly in this world.

#### Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

It was after Jesus' humility that He was exalted. We will also be lifted up by humbling ourselves. Maybe not in the eyes of the world but in what truly matters for our treasure is in Heaven.

#### Psalm 10:17

O LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will strengthen their heart, You will incline Your ear...

#### Isaiah 57:15

For thus says the high and exalted One Who lives forever, whose name is Holy, "I dwell on a high and holy place, And also with the contrite and lowly of spirit In order to revive the spirit of the lowly And to revive the heart of the contrite."

#### Matthew 18:4

Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

#### James 4:10

Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

1 Peter 5:5b-7

...clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE. Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

In light of the humility of our savior and His commandment to us, how do we fulfill the order to humble ourselves?